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OBJECT TO PROPOSAL OF UNIONS

Beef Packers Would Exclude the Strikers From Privilege of Returning to Work Upon Settlement.

Conference Is Held, but as Yet the Contending Factions Have Failed to Agree.

DONNELLY TO MAKE REPLY

Will Insist That the Men Be Re-instated—Prospect for Settlement Is Regarded as Very Promising.

Chicago, July 14.—The strike which has demoralized the packing industry throughout the country has not yet been settled, but there are indications it will soon end by adjustment of the difficulties by arbitration.

After a conference which lasted all afternoon between representatives of the packers and members of the unions the employers tonight are waiting for an answer to a counter proposition which they this afternoon submitted to M. J. Donnelly, in reply to his statement of the terms upon which he would be willing to make a settlement. Donnelly stated tonight that the counter proposition of the packers will be rejected and he will in turn present a counter proposition tomorrow.

The hitch in the negotiations is over the reinstatement of the strikers, the union demanding that everyone who went on strike shall be given his old place before the agreement to arbitrate will be considered.

LOSS TO THE RAILROADS.

Big Strike Seriously Interferes With Business of Carriers.

Chicago, July 14.—From a financial viewpoint probably no one outside interest is more seriously affected by the stock yards strike than the railroads, particularly the lines operating east from Chicago. Fresh meat is one of the heavy articles of shipment east from here and it takes a higher rate than almost any class of freight. An average of 200 carloads of fresh meat is shipped from Chicago to eastern points and for export every day. The remuneration to the railroads averages \$100 a car, the rate being 45 cents per 100 pounds. The business is pretty evenly divided among the 10 competing lines, and amounts to \$20,000 a day to the 10 railroads. Officers of the east-bound roads say that there has been a material falling off in meat shipments.

Beyond a distance of 200 miles there

is not much fresh meat shipped from west of Chicago, the western markets being supplied by the river packing houses.

CALL IT A UNIVERSITY OF OREGON SWINDLE.

Letters Sent to Address of Dead Persons About "Prizes."

New York City, July 14.—In the arrest yesterday of a man who says he is Frederick Hill, 27 years old, a salesman, of No. 2048 Seventh avenue, by Postoffice Inspector Little, with Detective Sergeants McConville and Clark of police headquarters, at No. 22 East Twenty-first street, the postal authorities say they believe they have one of the prime movers in an exceedingly novel swindling scheme.

The scheme, according to Inspector Little, consisted in the sending of letters to the addresses of persons who had recently died, informing them that they had drawn prizes in the "Honduras National Lottery," and informing them that they would receive a money order for the amount of the prize if the agent's commission, \$2, was forwarded at once. All these letters, according to the inspector, were signed "Honduras National Lottery, per Pedro Alvarez, United States agent," and the address No. 2 East Twenty-first street, was designated. The expectation of the backers of the project evidently was, according to the inspector, that the heirs or relatives of such dead persons would have their cupidly sufficiently aroused to cause them to forward the \$2 "commission." The names and addresses of the dead persons, it is supposed, were obtained through the newspapers of various cities.

Hill, the prisoner, said last night that he was not "Pedro Alvarez," but was acquainted with him, having met him in the lobby of the Fifth Avenue hotel, where he thought Alvarez lived. Hill says that his connection with Alvarez consisted merely in making trips several times a day to a mail box at No. 2 East Twenty-first street to get the other's letters. He received a dollar each trip, he says.

According to Detectives McConville and Clark, however, the postal authorities charge that Hill went to No. 2 East Twenty-first street two weeks ago and there rented a private letter box, where he received mail addressed to "Pedro Alvarez." This address was learned through the complaint of a man who said he was fleeced. The scheme is said to have been extremely profitable.

OUSTED THE SECRETARY.

Board of Lady Managers of St. Louis Fair Starts Something.

St. Louis, July 14.—By a vote of 8 to 5, the board of lady managers of the St. Louis exposition today declared vacant the office of secretary. Miss Lavinia Agen of Louisiana, who was ousted from office by this action, protested and asked that the reason for the action be submitted in writing.

Miss Etta Lou Carter of Jefferson City, Mo., was elected temporary secretary.

PNEUMONIA CARRIED OFF THE NOTED BOER LEADER

Ex-President Kruger Succumbed to an Attack Which Resulted in Weakness of the Heart.

Clarens, Switzerland, July 14.—Paul Kruger, former president of the Transvaal republic, died here at 3 o'clock this morning from pneumonia and supervening heart weakness. Mr. Kruger lost consciousness Monday. His daughter and son-in-law were with him at the time of his death. He had been in poor health since his arrival here at the beginning of last month and had been out but once.

The ex-president's body was embalmed and this afternoon the remains will be placed in a vault pending funeral arrangements. Application will be made to the British government for authority to transmit the remains to the Transvaal. In the meantime, they will be temporarily interred here.

London Papers Laud Him.

London, July 14.—The announcement

of Kruger's death is the main feature of all the afternoon papers. It was accompanied by lengthy sketches of his career. All the papers devoted editorials to the ex-president's demise, refraining from anything denunciatory and speaking generously of his remarkable characteristics.

Mourning in the Transvaal.

Pretoria, Transvaal, July 14.—General Botha, former commander in chief of the Boer forces, today received a cable message announcing Kruger's death. The announcement called forth general expressions of regret, especially because the ex-president died among foreigners. Flags on all the government buildings are at half-mast. Kruger will be buried beside the ex-president of the Transvaal unless his will has provided otherwise. Memorial services will be held July 17 in all the Dutch churches.

PETERSBURG ELATED OVER UNCONFIRMED NEWS OF JAPANESE DISASTER

Story of Slaughter of 30,000 Men at Port Arthur Has Not Yet Been Verified From An Authentic Source.

News Comes That Armies Have Been Engaged Between Kai Chou and Tai Tche Kiao, Where the Japs Are Said to Have Lost 2800 Men and Russians 1800—Undated Dispatch Received Has No Reference to Disaster.

Confirmation of the reported defeat of the Japanese third army at Port Arthur is still lacking, although the news has been received in St. Petersburg as authentic. The absence of the emperor is believed to have resulted in the delay in transmitting news of the victory. St. Petersburg has received private dispatches confirming the messages received from Chefoo and Mukden. The Chefoo dispatch stated that a great battle was in progress at a point between Kai Chou and Tai Tche Kiao, while the Mukden dispatch gives the report of the Japanese loss of 30,000 men in the unsuccessful assault upon Port Arthur. An undated dispatch was received at Tai Tche Kiao from Port Arthur on July 13, but it made no reference to the reported assault. However, this dispatch might have been delayed in transmission, which would account for its failure to refer to the Japanese defeat.

St. Petersburg, July 14.—The people of St. Petersburg retired tonight in a happy frame of mind. The absence of a dispatch from General Stoessel, commander of the military at Port Arthur, regarding the reported disaster to the Japanese last Sunday night is generally attributed to the delay in the communicating of official news owing to the absence of the emperor. Private news received in St. Petersburg from Russian sources in the far east confirm the reports from Mukden and Chefoo. According to a usually reliable source, the Japanese losses were 2800 and the Russian losses 1800.

Only late tonight a dispatch arrived which, had it become generally known, would have tended somewhat to dampen the enthusiasm. This was a dispatch from Tai Tche Kiao, communicating an undated dispatch from Port Arthur received July 13. It did not mention an assault or a repulse, but it is quite possible the dispatch was sent from Port Arthur earlier than July 10, so it can not be fairly regarded as contradictory evidence.

Russians Are Sanguine. The general staff, although it has no further news of the reported Japanese disaster at Port Arthur, maintains that there is no reason to doubt that the Japanese have suffered a substantial repulse, pointing out that it is significant, if the report is untrue, that no denial has been issued from Tokyo, which did not hesitate to deny the Russian report of the loss of the battleship Shikishima and the atrocity stories.

Experts who have carefully studied the Japanese methods are not surprised that they should attempt to storm without a preliminary bombardment, such as lasted for three days prior to the Russian assault on Plevna at the time of the Russo-Turkish war, and the still longer bombardment of Sebastopol, the chief drawback of a bombardment being that it warns the garrison of what is coming. The experts say the Japanese may have hoped to take the fortress by surprise, giving up the bombardment after Rear Admiral Witsoeff's squadron went out on Saturday, and dismantled their siege battery.

An officer who has just returned here from the front said to the Associated Press that the terrible losses reported to have been sustained by the besiegers of Port Arthur were not unlikely, in view of the extraordinary, almost fatalistic determination of the Japanese, never hesitating before the most terrible chances. Some of the forts at Port Arthur are preceded by ditches four and five fathoms deep, hewn out of the solid rock. Whole regiments could easily be engulfed in these chasms. The rumors emanating from London that Port Arthur has fallen arouse only smiles from the Russian officers. It is not improbable that fighting is now progressing at Tai Tche Kiao, according to the Japanese were with-

PROTECTION FOR SOLDIERS.

Russian Government Has Placed Big Order for Breastplates.

New York, July 14.—The Russian government has ordered 100,000 breast plates from a local company engaged in the manufacture of cuirassiers, says a Herald dispatch from Milan, Italy. They are said to be intended for use by the Russian forces in the far east. The cuirass is a pliable breastplate weighing about one pound, measuring a little less than one-half inch in thickness and capable of resisting bullets. The inventor gave a demonstration before the emperor last winter in St. Petersburg.

Yinkow Occupied.

Tokio, July 14, 4:30 p. m.—It is reported that Yinkow has been occupied by the Japanese without any resistance upon the part of the Russian troops.

London, July 14.—The Chronicle's Tokyo correspondent says that on July 14 the Japanese occupied Yinkow and the 300 Russians in the town escaped with difficulty.

Two Negroes Hanged.

Pittsburg, July 14.—John Johnston and Frank Ousley, colored, were hanged here together today for the murder

of James Donnelly, a Herron Hill grocer, on the night of last New Year's eve, in the presence of his daughter and aged father-in-law. Johnston confessed to committing four other murders. The execution was witnessed by a son of James Donnelly, whom the negroes murdered.

As the trap was sprung, a member of the jury and two spectators fainted.

BRINGS MUCH TREASURE.

Steamship Oregon Arrives From North With \$200,000 in Gold.

Seattle, July 14.—The steamship Oregon arrived from Nome yesterday with \$200,000 in gold dust and 90 passengers. There was fair weather nearly all the way down, and the voyage was void of unusual occurrences.

When the Oregon left Nome there was a strike on among the longshoremen because the firm that controls all the work there had reduced wages from \$1 an hour to 75 cents. The Oregon had a hard time to get men to unload the ship, being compelled finally to employ a force at the old scale of wages. There was no likelihood of a settlement of the trouble when the Oregon left, and as a result shipping there was given a severe setback.

General commercial business in Nome was reported dull. So many persons have left Nome in the last few weeks for the diggings that the class of men who spend money in a town has dwindled down greatly.

Indians in the vicinity of Nome are reported to be dying fast with consumption and grip. There seems to be an epidemic of a severe nature. The natives live but a few days when the disease gets a firm hold on them. Gambling and dance halls are tightly closed in Nome.

GREAT FOREST FIRE IS RAGING IN CALIFORNIA.

Flames Are Approaching Alarmingly Near to Big Grain Fields and Hundreds Fighting Them.

Willows, Cal., July 14.—A disastrous fire has been raging in the foothill section to the west for the past two days. The fire has burned over a strip of country 15 miles long. Most of the section is used as grazing lands and the loss to stockmen will be enormous.

Nearly the whole of Clark's valley is burned over and much standing grain destroyed. Tonight the fire has reached a point directly west of here and is burning in the heavy stubble. Fanned by a strong wind, the flames are getting alarmingly near the great fields of standing grain. Hundreds of men are now engaged in fighting the fire, and all available help is being rushed to the scene.

Sailor Rescued at Sea.

San Francisco, July 14.—Marcus P. Rile, a Danish sailor, arrived here from the north. He was picked up in a fainting condition by a Japanese fishing bark after he had drifted for four days in his dory 100 miles northwest of the point where he had lost sight of his vessel, the barkentine Fremont, in a fog.

MEAN TO OUST TAGGART FROM THE CHAIRMANSHIP

Democratic Leaders Feel That Indiana Man Has Absolutely No Claim as Head of National Committee.

Esopus, N. Y., July 14.—Bourke Cockran, August Belmont and Senator McCarren visited Judge Parker today. This afternoon a conference was held between Parker and McCarren, which lasted about an hour, and from what was learned after the conference, there is a strong impression here that Sheehan is no longer thought of in connection with the national democratic chairmanship, and those in a position of leadership do not regard the national committee as in any way bound to Thomas Taggart of Indiana. It may be said that, if anyone has been selected for the national chairmanship, there is no reliable information obtainable here tonight as to who he is. McCarren, Cockran and Belmont left for New York tonight.

Asked about Bryan's utterances, McCarren said Bryan had pledged himself on the platform in the convention to support the ticket, and he believed Bryan would do so. Cockran repeated his statement that he was ready to make more speeches for Parker than he made in 1896.

Chinese Emperor Ill.

London, July 14.—The Shanghai correspondent of the Post says the Chinese emperor is reported to be seriously ill with dysentery.

Funeral of Mrs. Clemens.

Elmira, N. Y., July 14.—The funeral of Mrs. Samuel L. Clemens was held here today. The burial was in Woodlawn cemetery.

BRYAN SAYS PLATFORM'S AGREEABLE

In Speech Democratic Leader Declares Imperialism Will Be the Leading Issue of This Campaign.

Anti-Trust Plank Is all Right if the President Should Want to Bust the Trusts.

MUCH DEPENDS ON PARKER

Nebraskan Makes It Plain That He Is Withholding Judgment Until Candidate Writes His Acceptance Letter.

Lincoln, Neb., July 14.—William J. Bryan today made a public speech in which he said regarding the platform adopted at St. Louis:

"It is positive, strong and satisfactory to the entire party, and this question of imperialism becomes the paramount issue of this campaign."

"The tariff plank is good, but it was made so on a close vote in the committee and against the opposition of Parker's adherents."

"The anti-trust plank is a good one. It is infinitely superior to the republican plank, and, with a president who desired to destroy the trusts, would be a sufficient plank, but there is reason to fear it may not be in keeping with the ideas of the candidate."

"The labor plank is all that could be desired, but, as these planks were added in the full committee, some uncertainty exists as to the candidate's position."

"The platform declares in favor of reduction of the army. Upon this the committee was unanimous."

"The platform has a plank in favor of enlargement of the scope of the interstate commerce commission, and is in favor of irrigation. The general clauses excite no dispute, and the appeal against the introduction of the race issue ought to have weight with sober, thinking Americans."

"On the whole, the platform is good. From a western standpoint, its greatest defect is that it makes no mention of the money question. While a motion to reaffirm the Kansas City platform was voted down, there was a considerable vote in favor of its reaffirmation, and the western members of the committee, together with a few from the south, stood together and secured enough changes in the platform to make it a presentable document and worthy of the support of the party."